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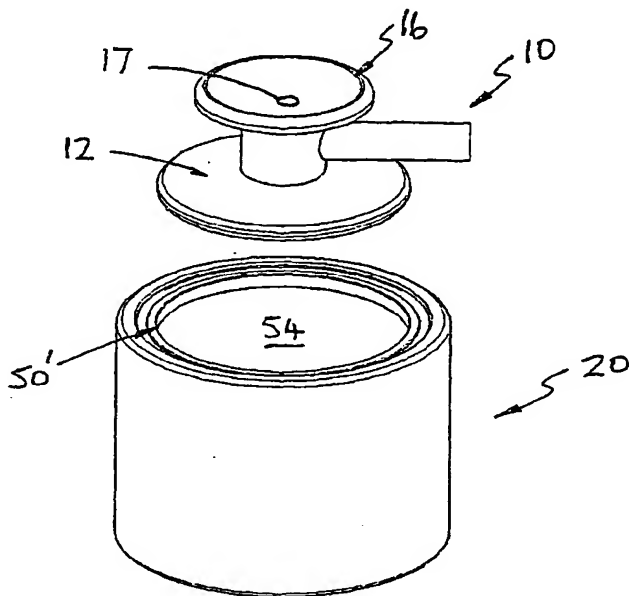
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(54) Title: COVER FOR THE DIAPHRAGM OF A STETHOSCOPE AND DISPENSER FOR SUCH A COVER



(57) Abstract: An apparatus for dispensing a cover device, the cover device comprising a frame and a membrane. The cover device is actuatable from a first state, in which an outer portion of the membrane is seated on, or around, an outer surface of the frame, and a second state in which the outer portion of the membrane is located generally inwardly of its seated position. The apparatus comprises a magazine for storing at least one cover device in said first state, the magazine having a mouth through which the at least one cover device may be dispensed; and means for actuating the at least one stored cover device from the first state to the second state. In a preferred embodiment, said actuating means actuates the at least one stored cover device from the first state to the second state upon movement of said at least one stored cover device into the magazine. Hence, when the head of a stethoscope (or other instrument) is inserted into the mouth of the dispenser, thereby pushing the topmost cover device into the magazine in a direction generally away from the mouth, the cover device is actuated to the second state thereby causing it to grip the head of the stethoscope (or other instrument).

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